



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **How big are the plots? How many can I get?**

Each raised garden plot is 4'x12'; however a limited number of 4'x8' plots are also available. A maximum of two garden beds may be issued per person/family, depending upon availability.

### **How much do they cost?**

One 4'x12' plot is \$40.00 and two 4'x12' plots are \$60.00. One 4'x8' plot is \$30 and two 4'x8' plots are \$50. Payment is required at the time the application and waiver are submitted.

### **How do I sign up?**

The Woodstock Community GREENS 'Application – Rules & Regulations' is available [here](#). Completed applications, Waiver of Liability and payment can be dropped off at City Hall to the Finance Department at 121 West Calhoun Street, Woodstock, or mailed to:

Attn: Garden Plot Applications  
121 W. Calhoun St.  
Woodstock, IL 60098

Once the renewal period has ended for existing gardeners, all plots are assigned on a first come, first serve basis. A waitlist will be formed when all plots have been assigned.

### **When will I be able to start working in my plot(s)?**

Gardeners will be notified of their plot number(s). Gardeners may work in their plot(s) each day from dawn to dusk. **Plots must be planted by July 1<sup>st</sup> or they will be forfeited and reassigned.** Plots must be cleared/tilled and all equipment removed before the end of the season or November 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **How will I get water?**

Spigots are available and turned on by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Water turn on is subject to weather and frost considerations. The water will be turned off near the end of October. There are no hoses allowed in the gardens. Gardeners need to bring equipment to manually carry water to their plot(s).

**Are the gardens organic?**

Woodstock Community GREENS is an organically managed property. Only OMRI (Organic Review Institute – [www.omni.org](http://www.omni.org) ) listed insecticides and fungicides may be used. No herbicides are permitted, however organic, homemade remedies are allowed.

**Are the beds tilled?**

Gardeners are responsible for completely clearing and tilling their beds at the end of each season (by November 1), therefore, beds should only need to be turned at the beginning of each season.

**Is there dirt available?**

The City will provide a stockpile of soil for gardeners to add/replace in their plot. Compost will sometimes be available. The provided compost is NOT fertilizer, but mixing it with the soil in your plot will improve the soil's texture.

**I have never gardened before – what do I do?**

Use the knowledge of your fellow gardeners! Ask questions and look for suggestions from the experienced gardeners at the garden site. Check the Woodstock Public Library for books about organic gardening. Also, check the McHenry County University of Illinois Extension Office webpage - <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/lm/>, which includes information about their McHenry County Master Gardeners Program. Gardening is rewarding, but it is hard work...if you are unsure about taking it on, consider sharing a plot with someone else. Most importantly, pull weeds whenever possible, and be a good neighbor by following the Garden's Rules & Regulations.